



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Mayasoshi IWASE, *et al.*  
Serial No. : 09/665,899  
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Title : FUEL CELL AND SEPARATOR FOR SAME  
Group Art Unit : 1745  
Examiner : J. MERCADO

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**AMENDMENT**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 23, 2002, the Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Once amended) A fuel cell comprising:  
a joint body produced by interposing an electrolyte member between a pair of electrodes;  
a separator which holds the joint body;  
a plurality of projections projecting from a bottom of the separator;  
a rib portion which divides an area where the projections project into a plurality of regions and forms a passage for fluid which flow through the separator, wherein the plurality of regions communicate with each other; and  
a gas supply inlet which connects the fluid passage and supplies a gas to the fluid passage therethrough, wherein the gas supply inlet is located so that a gas flow between the gas supply inlet and the fluid passage is parallel to a gas flow in the fluid passage.
4. (Once amended) A fuel cell according to claim 1, wherein a direction of the gas flow in the fluid passage in at least one of the plurality of regions differs from a direction of the gas flow in a second one of the plurality of regions.